

PHOTOGRAPHING GUNS OF THE UNITED STATES.

MAY 17, 1898.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. HULL, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 9553.]

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9553) in reference to photographing any guns which would give the strength of any fortification of the United States, having had the same under consideration, report it back to the House with the recommendation that it do pass with the following amendment:

Strike out of the sixth line the words "giving the power of the guns or" and insert in lieu thereof the words "as to."

The bill is indorsed by the War Department in the following letters:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS,
UNITED STATES ARMY,
Washington, April 13, 1898.

SIR: I have the honor to return herewith H. R. 9553, Fifty-fifth Congress, second session, "A bill in reference to photographing any guns which would give the strength of any fortification of the United States," which was referred to the Secretary of War, for his information and for remark, by the chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs of the House of Representatives.

In my opinion the public interests will be properly guarded if this bill should become a law.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN M. WILSON,
Brig. Gen., Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army.

Hon. R. A. ALGER,
Secretary of War.

(Through the Chief of Ordnance, United States Army.)

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE, UNITED STATES ARMY,
Washington, April 15, 1898.

SIR: Referring to the bill (H. R. 9553) "in reference to photographing any guns which would give the strength of any fortification of the United States," introduced by Mr. Bennett, copy herewith inclosed, I would respectfully inform you that, in my opinion, it is to the interests of the public service that said bill should become a law.

Very respectfully,

D. W. FLAGLER,
Brigadier-General, Chief of Ordnance.

The SECRETARY OF WAR.

[First indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, April 19, 1898.

Respectfully returned to the chairman Committee on Military Affairs, House of Representatives, inviting attention to the accompanying reports of the Chief of Engineers and Chief of Ordnance, United States Army, dated April 13 and 15, 1898, respectively.

G. D. MEIKLEJOHN,
Assistant Secretary of War.